

## Education Committee - Town of Arrowsic

Arrowsic Town Hall, May 6, 2015

[Draft by Anita Lichman]

*Participants:* Camille Kauffunger, Anita Lichman

### *Agenda:*

1. Approve last meeting minutes.
2. High School Building Committee
3. Choices Program
4. Student List for RSU1
5. RSU 1 Budget Meeting
6. Community Initiatives

#### *1. Approve last meeting minutes.*

All those who attended the last meeting approved the minutes.

#### *2. High School Building Committee*

Approximately 10 people (including Camille) attended the Arrowsic meeting, facilitated by Karen Robins, to discuss the high school building process. There were 8 adults and 2 youth. The focus of the meeting was to explore what is important to attendees and their children that could inform the building of the high school. The main themes that arose were making the new building a community center where hands on learning, a focus on the environment, and sustainability were present.

Camille had notes from the meeting to share with the Education Committee. Camille noted that it could be useful to keep the notes from the high school building process meeting as a working document to capture themes important to Arrowsic residents regarding education. Also, using a sign in sheet at meetings may be a useful way to capture contact information and make connections with interested town residents.

Camille also noted that making meetings family friendly by providing childcare (**including having a childcare kit at Town Hall**). Lastly, Camille noted that Camille will try to stay in touch with Karen Robins to share updates about the High School Building process with the Education Committee.

#### *3. Choices Program (Pre-k Program)*

The turn out for this meeting was the largest in the history of the program according to Rosalie Perkins. The key points made at the meeting were that the program will now be offered five days a week (Monday through Friday) from 8:30am-12pm (with the exception of a late start one day a week). It was also shared that the YMCA will provide care in the afternoons for the school based programs. There is no formal transportation provided to pre-k students attending the choices program, however if the pre-k student has an older sibling or there is sufficient space on the school bus Choices participants may be able to receive transportation to school.

Camille noted it would be ideal to find a way to provide an updated FAQ about the Choices program to Arrowsic residents. Anita wondered if next year it may be useful to write an article for the Arrow newsletter for the Town.

#### *4. Student List for RSU1*

Camille & Anita debriefed the student list review this year and suggested next year one person maintain the list and check off each student verified to ensure 100% of the students on the list become verified prior to confirming the students on the list to RSU 1. **Anita agreed to try and find the final list that Veda sent to the Education Committee and share with Camille to coordinate information about the RSU 1 budget.**

#### *5. RSU 1 Budget*

On 5/26 district budget vote. 6/9 district budget referendum and validation. **Camille is going to reconnect with Bill to ensure the budget for Arrowsic matches the formula for the RSU 1 student list.**

#### *6. Community Initiatives*

The Committee discussed doing a series of events that are educational in nature such as a science gathering, partnering with the Conservation Committee to create signs, and exploring returning to past Town ventures in cider making/touch a truck events. The Committee agree to draft a calendar of options at the next meeting.

**In the meantime Anita is going to reach out to Quinn to see if the Education Committee can reserve a place in the Arrow called Arrowsic Accolades to invite residents to highlight education related success.**

#### Next Steps

1. Create a childcare kit and leave in Town Hall for town residents to use to help make meetings/gatherings family friendly.
2. Anita agreed to try and find the final list that Veda sent to the Education Committee and share with Camille to coordinate information about the RSU 1 budget.
3. Camille is going to reconnect with Bill to ensure the budget for Arrowsic matches the formula for the RSU 1 student list.
4. In the meantime Anita is going to reach out to Quinn to see if the Education Committee can reserve a place in the Arrow called Arrowsic Accolades to invite residents to highlight education related success.

#### **Committee's Annual Tasks**

- 1) Create annual monthly meeting schedule & post on town calendar, Google Town calendar, and Arrow publication. (AUGUST)

- 2) Secure RSU1 School Board meeting schedule & assign Committee members to attend & report back to the Committee (SEPTEMBER)
- 3) Announce Pre-K information session & RSU1 school registration deadline. (MARCH)
- 4) Town Annual Report (MARCH)
- 5) RSU1 Student List Review & Approval (APRIL)
- 6) Submit annual Committee budget request to Select Board. (APRIL)

The meeting was adjourned at 7pm.

Next Committee meeting is June 3rd at 6pm at Town Hall.